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Report of the Local Flora Committee

I. LESPEDEZA

The present article on *Lespedeza* constitutes one of a series of notes on the distribution of native plants of the Torrey Club area, representing in part the work of the Local Flora Committee during the past two seasons. Two plates drawn by Miss Maud H. Purdy of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden illustrate species of *Lespedeza* found in our area. It must not be taken for granted that the problems are now cleared up; on the contrary, these drawings and distributional notes should be an incentive to much-needed observation in the field of variation in this difficult genus. Maps¹ showing the geographical distribution of individual species within the Torrey Club area as represented in the local herbaria of the New York Botanical Garden and the Brooklyn Botanic Garden have been placed in the herbarium of the New York Botanical Garden. For statements in the text the chairman of the committee is entirely responsible.

LESPEDEZA REPENS (L.) Bart. Pl. I, fig. 4. A southern species apparently common in southern New Jersey north to Morris County. Abundant on Long Island, especially south of the moraine, and extending northward in the Hudson Valley to Iona Island (*M. O. Steele*). Known from New Haven, Trumbull, and Fairfield, Conn. (See Conn. State Geol. & Nat. Hist. Surv. Bull. 48: 59. 1930.)

L. PROCUMBENS Michx. Pl. I, fig. 5. Occasional in southern New Jersey in the pine barrens and represented northward to central New Jersey (Somerset and Essex Counties), with a single station in Sussex Co. (Andover Junction). Common on Long Island and extending northward in the Hudson Valley to West Park, Ulster County, N. Y. Differs from *L. repens* only in the hairy stem, and therefore perhaps not a sufficiently distinct species.

¹ The following members of the committee have made maps of *Lespedeza*: Miss Hester M. Rusk, Miss Eleanor Friend, Miss Dolores Fay, Miss Ora B. Smith, Mr. J. Harry Logan, and Dr. H. A. Gleason.

L. VIOLACEA (L.) Pers. Pl. I, fig. 2. A large-flowered species represented in New Jersey from Warren, Morris, and Bergen Counties. It also occurs in southern Long Island and extends locally northward to Orange County and southern Ulster County (Ulsterville). The species was originally described (Sp. Pl. 2:749. 1753) as having violet flowers in pairs, the leaves ovate, and the acute glabrous fruit three times as long as the calyx. Schindler (in Engler's Bot. Jahrb. 49:593. 1913) has noted especially the long-exserted keel as characterizing the species.

L. BRITTONII Bickn. Pl. I, fig. 3. The TYPE, from Bronxville, N. Y., is illustrated. Bicknell thought it intermediate in character between *L. Nuttallii* and *L. procumbens*, but larger than either. It is of infrequent occurrence, being cited by Bicknell from Boston, Bronxville, N. Y., and Quaker Bridge in the New Jersey pine barrens. Members of the committee have seen on an open hillside in Orange County, N. Y., a single clump of *L. Brittonii* surrounded by abundant *L. intermedia* and *L. capitata*, and have wondered whether it might represent a hybrid between those two species.

L. NUTTALLII Darlington. Pl. I, fig. 1. The drawing illustrates a plant similar to Nuttall's specimen at the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences, which came from Delaware and in which the broadly ovate leaflets are markedly retuse and of variable size. But Darlington's description evidently includes plants of some diversity. Herbaria include under *L. Nuttallii* all specimens of this group with leaves velvety pubescent below and with elongate peduncles. Dr. Britton (Trans. N. Y. Acad. Sci. 12:61. 1892) felt that *L. Nuttallii* was quite distinct from *L. Stuevei* in "being much less pubescent, having slender-peduncled heads of flowers, much longer calyx-lobes, and longer, strongly acuminate pods." By Taylor the species is stated as extending up the Hudson Valley to the Highlands.

L. STUEVEI Nutt. Pl. II, fig. 1. Described from sandy fields in New Jersey, possibly from the vicinity of Bremen, where Dr. Stueve lived. The illustration is from a specimen close in appearance to Nuttall's type. Nuttall described the plant as velvety throughout, leaves elliptic-oval and obtuse, and the peduncles about an inch long, scarcely longer than the leaves. The distribution is scattered and not well understood, but the plant is, with us, primarily of the coastal plain. Forma *angustifolia* (Britton) Hopkins, Rhodora 37:265. 1935, came, without assigned type, from



EXPLANATION OF PLATE I

Fig. 1. *Lespedeza Nuttallii*, Baldwin, L. I., *E. E. Powers*, 1892.

Fig. 2. *L. violacea*, Little Falls, D. C., *D. LeRoy Topping*, 1896.

Fig. 3. *L. Brittonii*, Bronxville, N. Y., *Bicknell*, TYPE.

Fig. 4. *L. repens*, Arlington, Va., *F. Blanchard*, 1890.

Fig. 5. *L. procumbens*, Dingmans Ferry, Pa., *Seelman*, 1899.

Habit drawings $\times \frac{1}{2}$; fruit $\times 3\frac{1}{2}$.

the New Jersey pine barrens. According to Hopkins (l.c.) the only difference between this and the typical form is in the shape of the leaflets, linear or linear-oblong instead of elliptic to oval. *L. Stuevei neglecta* Britton is a superfluous name based on *L. Stuevei* var. *angustifolia*.

L. INTERMEDIA (Wats.) Britton (*L. frutescens* of manuals). Pl. II, fig. 3. *L. virginica* and *L. intermedia* are "very closely related . . . and may advantageously be retained as species. *L. 'frutescens'* is a more freely and loosely branched plant, with less leafy stems and broader oval or oblong-oval rather than linear or linear-elliptic leaflets." Blake, *Rhodora* 26: 30. 1924. Generally distributed throughout, but no specimens are represented from Columbia, Dutchess, or Putnam Counties, or from Warren, Morris, and Hunterdon Counties in New Jersey.

L. VIRGINICA (L.) Britton. Pl. II, fig. 2. Abundantly represented from Long Island and from New Jersey. North of Westchester County in New York only from Iona Island in the Hudson near Bear Mountain, and from two stations in Orange County. Forma *Deamii* Hopkins, *Rhodora* 37: 265. 1935, a western form in which the stem-pubescence is spreading, is reported from New Haven, Conn. (l.c.).

L. SIMULATA Mackenzie & Bush. This western species, with calyx-lobes 6-8 mm. long (two-thirds as long as the pods) and said to resemble *L. capitata*, has been reported from a few places in Connecticut and from Haworth, Bergen County, New Jersey. According to Palmer & Steyermark, *Ann. Missouri Bot. Gard.* 22: 582. 1935, it is "Probably a hybrid between *L. virginica* or *L. Stuevei* and *L. capitata*."

L. HIRTA (L.) Elliott. Pl. II, fig. 5. Leaflets described by Linnaeus as oval. Probably throughout the area, but no specimens from Sullivan, Greene, Delaware, Dutchess, or Putnam Counties. Var. *oblongifolia* Britton "may be a hybrid with *L. angustifolia*"; the TYPE came from Egg Harbor City, N. J.

L. CAPITATA Michx. Pl. II, fig. 4. Common throughout the area, the typical form having oblong leaflets. Includes *L. velutina* Bickn., and similar variants which have been placed under *L. capitata* by Fassett in "The Leguminous Plants of Wisconsin," 1939, a treatment coinciding with the independent observation of the Local Flora Committee.

HENRY K. SVENSON, Chairman
Local Flora Committee



EXPLANATION OF PLATE II

Fig. 1. *Lespedeza Stuevei*, Merrick,
L. I., *Wm. Ferguson*,
1918.

Fig. 2. *L. virginica*, Terra Cotta,
D. C., *D. LeRoy Top-
ping*, 1896.

Fig. 3. *L. intermedia*, Cascadilla
Gorge, N. Y. *Muensch-
& Bechtel* no. 480.

Fig. 4. *L. capitata*, Franklin Fur-
nace, N. J., *Van Sickle*,
1895.

Fig. 5. *L. hirta*, Addison, N. Y.,
B. B. Stroud, 1899.

Fig. 6. *L. angustifolia*, Landisville,
N. J., *C. A. Gross*, 1887.

Habit drawings $\times \frac{1}{2}$; fruit $\times 1$ and $\times \frac{3}{2}$.